

**ORDINANCE 2000-O-161**

ORDERING AND PROCLAIMING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2000, DESIGNATING POLLING PLACES, PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION IN REFERENCE TO AN ELECTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF A SPORTS AND COMMUNITY VENUE PROJECT ("THE LAREDO ENTERTAINMENT CENTER") AND FOR A ONE-FOURTH OF ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH WEBB COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR TO CONDUCT SAID SPECIAL ELECTION AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 334 of the Local Government Code, the City Council deems it advisable to call a Special Election on the question of the authorizing of a Sports and Community Venue Project ("The Laredo Entertainment Center") and voting a one-fourth of one percent sales and use tax in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the City has received a determination from the Comptroller of Public Accounts that the Sports and Community Venue Project will not have a significant negative fiscal impact on state revenue; and

WHEREAS, it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance is considered is open to the public as required by law, and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO;

SECTION 1: That a special election shall be held for the City of Laredo on Saturday, August 12, 2000, for approval of the Sports and Community Venue Project ("The Laredo Entertainment Center") in accordance with Chapter 334 of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2: That the mode and manner of holding and conducting said election shall be in accordance with the Texas Election Code and the City Charter of the City of Laredo, and that only resident qualified voters of the City shall be eligible to vote at said election.

SECTION 3: That the polls at each designated polling place, as set forth in "Exhibit A" which is attached hereto and made a part of this ordinance for all purposes, on said special election day shall be open from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 7:00 o'clock P.M.

SECTION 4: That the Presiding Judges shall appoint not less than two qualified election clerks to serve and assist in conducting said election; provided that if the Presiding Judge actually

serves as expected, the Alternate Presiding Judge shall be one of such clerks.

SECTION 5: That the period for early voting by personal appearance shall begin on the 17<sup>th</sup> day preceding the election, Wednesday, July 26, 2000, and shall continue through the fourth day preceding the date of the election, Tuesday, August 8, 2000. The main polling place for early voting shall be the Webb County Justice Center, located at 1110 Victoria St., Laredo, Texas, and such other early voting places and dates as set forth in "Exhibit B" attached hereto. The main early voting polling place shall remain open from 8:00 o'clock A.M. to 5:00 o'clock P.M. on each day designated for early voting. The designated polling places shall not be open on Saturdays, Sundays or official holidays, except as otherwise provided for in schedule of "Exhibit B".

SECTION 6: That the Early Voting Clerk for said election shall be appointed by the Webb County Elections Administrator.

SECTION 7: Application for ballots by mail shall be conducted by The Webb County Elections Administrator. All ballot applications and ballots voted by mail shall be sent to the Webb County Election Administrator, 1110 Victoria, Suite 109 A, P.O. Box 29, Laredo, Texas 78042.

SECTION 8: That notice of said elections shall be given by posting a substantial copy of this ordinance at the City Hall on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the City Council, not less than 21 days prior to the date set for said election; and a substantial copy of this ordinance also shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in said City, the date of the first publication to be not earlier than the 30<sup>th</sup> day or later than the 10<sup>th</sup> day prior to the date set for said election.

SECTION 9: That said election shall be conducted at each designated voting place and the ballot to be used at such election shall be printed in the form required by the Texas Election Code and manufacturer's specifications. That this election is to be conducted utilizing the AIS 315 Tabulation System Saturday, August 12, 2000.

SECTION 10: The election material enumerated in the Texas Election Code shall be printed and furnished in both English and Spanish for use at the voting places and for absentee voting.

SECTION 11: The election officers named herein shall make returns for the Election in the manner required by law, and the ballots that are properly marked in conformance with the provisions of the Code for votes cast both during the period of early voting and on the day of the Election shall be counted in the manner required by law.

SECTION 12: At said election the following Election Proposition shall be submitted in accordance with law:

### **ELECTION PROPOSITION**

Authorizing the City of Laredo to finance a sports and community venue project for a Multi-Purpose Entertainment Arena ("The Laredo Entertainment Center") and related

infrastructure that is planned for the use of one or more professional or amateur sports events, or other sports events, including promotional events and other civic or charitable events, and for which a fee for admission to the event is planned to be charged, and to impose a sales and use tax at the rate of one-fourth of one percent for the purpose of financing the venue project.

SECTION 13: That the official ballots for said election shall be prepared in accordance with the Texas Election Code so as to permit the electors to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the aforesaid PROPOSITION, with the ballots to contain such provisions, markings and language as required by law, and with such PROPOSITION to be expressed substantially as follows:

### FORM OF BALLOT

- ☐ **FOR** Authorizing the City of Laredo to finance a sports venue project for a Multi-Purpose Entertainment Arena ("The Laredo Entertainment Center") and related infrastructure and to impose a sales and use tax at the rate of one-fourth of one percent for the purpose of financing the venue project.
- ☐ **AGAINST**


SECTION 14: That immediately after the votes at such special election have been conducted and proper returns thereof made to the City Council, said City Council shall meet on Tuesday, August 15, 2000 at 5:30 P.M. at the City Council Chambers, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, 1110 Houston, to canvass the election and cause to be entered in the proper records of the City of Laredo, Texas, its official declaration of or order showing the actual and true results of said special election.

SECTION 15: That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into a contract agreement with the Webb County Elections Administrator to conduct said special election and accepted the terms and conditions set forth in the contract attached hereto and identified as "Exhibit C".

**PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS**  
**THE 26 DAY OF JUNE, 2000.**

  
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ELIZABETH G. FLORES  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GUSTAVO GUEVARA, JR.  
CITY SECRETARY

  
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JAIME L. FLORES  
CITY ATTORNEY